

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

**In re Application of:** Apparao et al.

**Docket No.:** AOL0124

**Serial No. :**10/631,343

**Art Unit:** 2173

**Filed:** July 30, 2003

**Examiner:** Kieu D. Vu

**Title:** A Method and System for Managing Digital Assets

December 2, 2005

Assistant Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Sir:

This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted:

- ( ) under 37 CFR 1.97(b), or  
(within three months of filing national application; or date of entry of international application; or before mailing date of first office action on the merits; whichever occurs last)
- (x) under 37 CFR 1.97(c) together with either a:
  - (X) Certification under 37 CFR 1.97(e), or
  - ( ) a \$220.00 fee under 37 CFR 1.17(p), or  
(After the CFR 1.97(b) time period, but before final action or notice of allowance, whichever occurs first)
- ( ) under 37 CFR 1.97(d) together with a:
  - ( ) Certification under 37 CFR 1.97(e), and
  - ( ) a \$220.00 fee under 37 CFR 1.17(d)(2)(ii), and
  - ( ) a \$130.00 petition fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(i)(1)  
(Filed after final action or notice of allowance, whichever occurs first, but before payment of the issue fee)
- (X) The Commissioner is authorized to charge any additional fees or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 07-1445 (Order No. AOL0124). A copy of this sheet is enclosed for accounting purposes.

(X) Applicant(s) submit herewith Form PTO 1449 – Information Disclosure Citation together with copies of patents, publications or other information of which applicant(s) are aware, which applicant(s) believe(s) may be material to the examination of this application and for which there may be a duty to disclose in accordance with 37 CFR 1.25.

( ) A concise explanation of the relevance of foreign language patents, foreign language publications and other foreign language information listed on PTO Form 1449, as presently understood by the individual(s) designated in 37 CFR 156(c) most knowledgeable about the content is given on the attached sheet, or where a foreign language patent is cited in a search report or other action by a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, an English language version of the search report or action which indicates the degree of relevance found by the foreign office is listed on form PTO 1449 and is enclosed herewith.

It is requested that the information disclosed herein be made of record in this application.

Respectfully Submitted,



Julia A. Thomas  
Reg. No. 52,283

Customer No. 22862

**COPY**

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**CERTIFICATION FOR  
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT  
UNDER 37 CFR §§1.97(e)**

Assistant Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

A certification is being made for the Information Disclosure Statement accompanying this certification.

**CERTIFICATION**

I, the person signing below, certify

( ) that each item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of the statement.  
(37 CFR 1.97(e)(1))

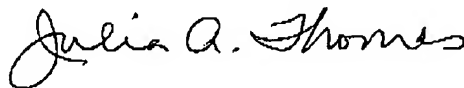
(x) that no item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart

foreign application or to the knowledge of the person signing the certification after making reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in §1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of the statement. 37 CFR 1.97(e)(2).

The person making this certification is the attorney who signs below on the basis of the information:

- ☐ supplied by the inventor(s)
- ☐ supplied by an individual designated in §1.56(c)
- ☒ in the attorney's file

Respectfully submitted,



Julia A. Thomas  
Reg. No. 52,283

Customer No. 22862

PTO/SB/08A (07-05)

Approved for use through 07/31/2006. OMB 0651-0031

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

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Substitute for form 1449/PTO		<b>Complete if Known</b>	
<b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b> <i>(Use as many sheets as necessary)</i>		Application Number	10/631,343
		Filing Date	July 30, 2003
		First Named Inventor	Apparao, et al.
		Art Unit	2173
		Examiner Name	Kieu D. Vu
Sheet 1 of 1	Attorney Docket Number	AOL0124	

U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Document Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number-Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known)			
		US- 6,049,812	4/11/2000	Bertram, et al.	
		US- 6,069,625	5/30/2000	Nelson, et al.	
		US-			
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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages Or Relevant Figures Appear
		Country Code <sup>2</sup> Number <sup>3</sup> Kind Code <sup>4</sup> (if known)			
		WO 98/57436	12/17/1998	Ekstrand, et al.	

Examiner Signature	Date Considered
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\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. <sup>1</sup> Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup> See Kinda Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at [www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov) or MPEP 901.04. <sup>3</sup> Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). <sup>4</sup> For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup> Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. <sup>6</sup> Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 (1-800-786-9199) and select option 2.